

Message Text

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ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 HEW-08 CU-04 CPR-02 PM-07 SAM-01 NSC-07

OPR-02 PA-04 RSC-01 SS-20 SY-03 USIA-15 PRS-01 A-01

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R 080835Z APR 74

FM AMEMBASSY CANBERRA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2961

INFO CINCPAC

AMEMBASSY WELLINGTON

C O N F I D E N T I A L CANBERRA 2096

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OVIP (WEINBERGER), AS, US, NZ

SUBJ: 1974 CORAL SEA CELEBRATIONS

REF: (A) STATE 069393; (B) STATE 068119; (C) STATE 065918;
(D) WELLINGTON 0995

1. AUSTRALIAN-AMERICAN ASSOCIATION FEDERAL PRESIDENT AND SECRETARY ARE DELIGHTED AT PROSPECT SECRETARY AND MRS. WEINBERGER WILL BE OFFICIAL GUESTS AT CORAL SEA COMMEMORATION CEREMONIES. THEY ARE PROCEEDING TO ARRANGE FORMAL INVITATION ASAP THROUGH GOA.

2. BEFORE INFORMING AAA, AMBASSADOR DISCUSSED CORAL SEA PROGRAM WITH SIR JOHN BUNTING, PERMANENT SECRETARY, PRIME MINISTER'S DEPARTMENT, IN LIGHT PROBABILITY OF GENERAL ELECTIONS MAY 18. BUNTING WAS MOST PLEASED THAT MR. AND MRS. WEINBERGER WOULD BE ABLE TO COME AND WAS CONFIDENT PM ALSO WOULD BE DELIGHTED. BUNTING ASSURED AMBASSADOR THAT COINCIDENCE OF ELECTIONS WOULD CAUSE NO REPEAT NO PROBLEM.

3. AFTER THOROUGH STUDY OF LONG-PLANNED EVENTS AND AIRLINE SCHEDULES, WE REGRET TO REPORT THERE APPEARS NO REPEAT NO WAY
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THAT SECRETARY AND MRS. WEINBERGER CAN FULFILL MINIMUM OBLIGATIONS

IN AUSTRALIA AND STILL VISIT NEW ZEALAND DURING SIX AND ONE-HALF DAYS AVAILABLE. EVENTS DO NOT BEGIN UNTIL AFTER WEEKEND, AND WE IMAGINE MR. AND MRS. WEINBERGER WILL APPRECIATE QUIET SUNDAY, MAY 5, IN SYDNEY ANYWAY TO REST BEFORE VERY STRENUOUS WEEK. ALLOWING ONE DAY EACH FOR SYDNEY, CANBERRA, BRISBANE, AND MELBOURNE, WILL SCHEDULE THE WEINBERGERS THROUGH EVENING RECEPTION IN MELBOURNE MAY 9. NEXT AVAILABLE FLIGHT TO WELLINGTON OR AUCKLAND WOULD NOT ARRIVE BEFORE AFTERNOON MAY 10. THIS WOULD NOT PERMIT TIME FOR ANY REASONABLE SCHEDULE IN NEW ZEALAND IN VIEW SECRETARY'S SPEAKING COMMITMENT HONOLULU.

4. AAA IS DELETING HOBART VISIT WHICH WAS EARLIER TENTATIVELY SCHEDULED FOR MAY 10, BUT PROGRAMS IN OTHER FOUR AUSTRALIAN CAPITALS REALLY MUST BE MAINTAINED IF WE ARE TO PREVENT ILL FELLING WHICH COULD TARNISH ENTIRE VISIT.

5. HAVE DISCUSSED PROBLEM WITH EMBASSY WELLINGTON, WHICH WILL BE REPORTING ITS RECOMMENDATIONS SEPARATELY IN LIGHT THIS UN-FORTUNATE TIMING SITUATION.

6. EMBASSY WILL MAKE AVAILABLE OFFICER AND SECRETARY TO TRAVEL WITH MR. AND MRS. WEINBERGER. WILL REPORT SUBSEQUENTLY SPECIFICS OF ITINERARY, SCHEDULES, AND PLANS, AS WELL AS IDEAS FOR SPEECHES. CONTROL OFFICER IS PAO JAMES PETTUS.
GREEN

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